

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY OES/ENP/EN:BLLONG:DR
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FOR FODAG

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TAGS: SENV, IT, OCON

SUBJECT: U.S. STRATEGY CONFERENCE FOR TROPICAL DEFORESTA-
TION

REF: (A) ROME 8753; (B) STATE 108695

1. PER REF (A), REQUEST EMBASSY DELIVER FOLLOWING INVITA-
TION TO FAO FOR SUBJECT CONFERENCE:

(QUOTE) DEAR DR. SAOUMA:

TROPICAL DEFORESTATION AND ASSOCIATED SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND
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ECOLOGICAL PROBLEMS ARE BEING PERCEIVED WITHIN THE U.S. AND
BY OTHER NATIONS AS A RAPIDLY EMERGING, MAJOR GLOBAL EN-
VIRONMENTAL ISSUE. THE HEIGHTENED WORLDWIDE AWARENESS AND
CONCERN IS GENERATING NUMEROUS NEW NATIONAL AND INTER-
NATIONAL PROGRAMS AND PROGRAM PROPOSALS TO DEAL WITH THE
SITUATION. IN ADDITION, EVOLVING TECHNOLOGICAL AND INSTI-
TUTIONAL CAPABILITIES SUGGEST THAT OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR

SOLVING THE PROBLEMS MAY EXIST.

AS A CONSEQUENCE, THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ARE CO-SPONSORING A U.S. STRATEGY CONFERENCE ON TROPICAL DEFORESTATION AT THE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, ROOM 1107, JUNE 12-14. THE PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES ARE TO: (1) REVIEW THE NATURE AND TRENDS OF THE PROBLEM; (2) EXCHANGE INFORMATION ABOUT ONGOING AND PLANNED PROGRAMS; AND (3) CONSIDER THE TYPE OF STRATEGY AND ACTIVITIES THE U.S. SHOULD PURSUE NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM. WE ANTICIPATE PARTICIPATION BY APPROXIMATELY 70 REPRESENTATIVES FROM U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, UNIVERSITIES, INDUSTRY, THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY AND PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS--ALL OF WHOM HAVE EXPERIENCE AND DIRECT INTEREST IN INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY, WITH RESPECT TO POLICY FORMULATION, MANAGEMENT OR THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS.

GIVEN THE PROMINANT ROLE OF FAO IN THE FIELD OF TROPICAL FORESTRY, I WOULD LIKE TO INVITE PARTICIPATION BY ONE OR TWO FORESTRY EXPERTS FROM YOUR ORGANIZATION IN OUR CONFERENCE. NOT ONLY WOULD IT BE INVALUABLE TO US TO LEARN FIRST-HAND OF FAO PROGRAMS AND PLANS WITH RESPECT TO TROPICAL FORESTRY PROBLEMS IN BOTH THE HUMID AND SUB-HUMID TROPICS (INCLUDING THE "FIREWOOD" PROBLEM); BUT WE UNCLASSIFIED

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WOULD ALSO LIKE TO INCLUDE AN FAO REPRESENTATIVE ON A STATE-OF-THE-ART PANEL SPECIFICALLY TO DISCUSS AGRO-FORESTRY.

I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO MAKE FAO REPRESENTATION AVAILABLE. THE INSIGHTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS THAT EMERGE WILL BE INVALUABLE IN HELPING DETERMINE U.S. INITIATIVES AND POSTURES WITHIN VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL FORUMS IN THE MONTHS AHEAD. IN ADDITION, THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ABOUT CRITICAL PROBLEMS, PRIORITY NEEDS AND ONGOING AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES ADDRESSED TO THE DEFORESTATION SITUATION SHOULD BE OF INTEREST TO ALL.

SINCERELY YOURS,

JOHN A. BAKER
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO
THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL
ORGANIZATION

2. MATERIAL ON FAO FORESTRY PROGRAM SHOULD BE FORWARDED

TO OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, ROOM 7820, C/O BILL L. LONG, WHO CAN ALSO BE USED AS A CONTINUING POINT OF CONTACT ON CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS.

3. CONFERENCE SPACE SELECTED ON BASIS OF DESIRE TO HAVE

LIMITED NUMBER OF TOP EXPERTS MEETING IN WORKING-TYPE ATMOSPHERE. ORGANIZERS THEREFORE STRIVING TO KEEP NUMBERS OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM ANY ORGANIZATION TO MAXIMUM OF TWO (AND IN MOST CASES TO ONE). WOULD CONSEQUENTLY HOPE FAO (QUOTE) DELEGATION (UNQUOTE) COULD BE LIMITED TO TWO, ALTHOUGH THREE CAN BE ACCOMMODATED IF FAO PREFERS.

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4. WOULD APPRECIATE NAMES AND TITLES OF FAO REPS ASAP, AND IDENTIFICATION OF INDIVIDUAL WHO WILL PARTICIPATE IN STATE-OF-THE-ART PANEL AND DEAL WITH SUBJECT OF AGRO-FORESTRY; AND ALSO EMBASSY APPRAISAL OF LEVEL AND SIGNIFICANCE OF FAO REPRESENTATION FOR, INTER ALIA, PROTOCOL PURPOSES. VANCE

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